

Whately Conservation Commission
Wednesday, September 15, 2021
Via Zoom

Commissioners present: Andrew Ostrowski, Ann Barker, George Owens, Montserrat Archbald, and Scott Jackson (chair)

Commissioners absent:

Others present: Peter Westover (Conservation Works, LLC)

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

1. Continuation of the Public Hearing for a Notice of Intent (NOI) submitted by the Kestrel Land Trust, to upgrade the trail system at the Whately Woods property, off Chestnut Plain Road. Scott Jackson recused himself due to his role as a member of the Kestrel Board of Directors. Montserrat Archbald reconvened the public hearing. She noted that the Commission had received a letter from MassDEP providing a file number for the NOI and comments. Montserrat read the DEP comments (document included in the file) and then asked Peter Westover to respond to those comments. Peter presented additional material to address the issues raised by DEP: 1) location of bog bridges relative to previously delineated bordering vegetated wetland (BVW), additional detail about the wetlands replication area, and details about the bog bridges explaining why shading will not be a problem. Discussion and Q&A followed. The Commission then voted unanimously (4-0 with Jackson abstaining) to close the hearing and issue an Order of Conditions without special conditions permitting the project.
2. The Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to accept the minutes from the August 24th meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Jackson